

REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 15, 19-21, 23, 26 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 6, 8, 9, 11-14, 16-18, 22, 24, 25, 27-30 and 32-34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the reasons presented in the response having a mailing date of May 8, 2003 and file a Notice of Appeal concurrently herewith.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that claims 1-34 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request an allowance of such claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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